

## What is Recycling?

Recycling means to take something old and turn it into something new. For example, when you recycle aluminum soda cans it is turned into a new aluminum can. Plastic soda or water bottles can be turned into a brand new backpack. Now that's pretty neat isn't it?

## Why should I recycle?

- ✓ It saves landfill space
- ✓ It saves energy
- ✓ It conserves our natural resources
- ✓ It reduces the amount of trash you throw away
- ✓ It is an environmentally friendly process

## Where can I recycle?

You can take your recyclables to the Bryan Drive-In Recycling Center located at 2200 Briarcrest Dr. in Bryan, TX or if you live in College Station you can conveniently put your items to be recycled on the curb for curbside pickup on your designated pickup day. There are other different places around town that recycle different things.

Brazos Valley Solid Waste Management Agency (BVSWMMA) also recycles certain things. Betcha didn't know that, huh? BVSWMMA operates the regional landfill and they recycle used oil, oil filters and cooking oil, there is also a recycling area for washers, dryers, refrigerators and freezers, metal, etc. Tires are also taken at the landfill, but for a small fee. You can visit the BVSWMMA website at [www.cstx.gov/landfill](http://www.cstx.gov/landfill).

## Some things to remember...

- Before you get ready to throw something in the trash ask yourself if it can be recycled. Look on the item and you will find a #1 or a #2 on the item inside a recycle symbol. If it has those numbers then it can be recycled. Don't put it in the trash put it in the recycle bin or bag.
- Remember most glass, aluminum and plastic bottles can be recycled.
- Always look for the recycle symbol on products
- By recycling we reduce the amount of trash we put in our garbage and saving landfill space.

## What can be recycled?

- Cereal boxes (can also be composted)
- Plastic

- Clear and brown glass
- Aluminum
- Newspapers (can also be composted)
- Magazines
- And much more....

How can I reduce the amount of trash in my home?

- Buy only what you need
- Buy products with little or no packaging
- Take reusable items when packing your school lunch
- Use reusable plates, cups, forks, and spoons instead of disposable ones
- Take reusable bags to the grocery store instead of using the plastic ones

What else can I do to be a Planet Protector?

- ✓ Use both sides of notebook paper before you recycle it
- ✓ Help recycle your parents junk mail
- ✓ Turn off the water while brushing your teeth
- ✓ Turn off the lights when you leave a room or when a room is not in use
- ✓ Reuse, Reduce, Recycle, Rebuy
- ✓ Give your old clothes to your little sister or brother to wear

Did you know?

- ✱ It can take up to 500 years for an aluminum can to decompose in our landfill
- ✱ Nearly 120,000 cans are recycled every minute nationwide
- ✱ Aluminum can be recycled into aluminum foil, license plates and even thumbtacks
- ✱ Aluminum is made from a natural resource called Bauxite Ore
- ✱ All newly purchased glass food jars contain at least 35% recycled glass
- ✱ It takes about 1,000,000 years for glass to break down naturally
- ✱ It takes 8 – 10 weeks for a glass container to be recycled and returned back to the store shelf
- ✱ Glass is a mixture of silica sand, soda, ash, limestone, alumina-silicate and salt cake

What do you think? I'd say this is pretty interesting information.